

U.S.S.N. 09/732,411

Filed: December 7, 2000

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**Remarks**

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, and 16-18 are pending. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended. Claims 11 and 19 have been canceled. Claim 4 has been amended to clarify the term "VCAM." Support for the amendment to claim 4 can be found, for example, at page 6, lines 7-8. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the method is for inhibiting binding of a cell to an integrin, glycosaminoglycan *or vascular adhesion molecule*, and that the peptide has a molecular weight less than about 2500 Daltons. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found, for example, at page 6, lines 7-8 (Vascular Adhesion Molecule); and page 3, line 15 (2500 Daltons).

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 1, 3-5, 7 and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as not being enabled. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection to the extent that it is applied to the claims as amended.

Claim 17, previously directed to inhibiting the binding of a cell within a human subject, has been canceled. This cancellation renders the Examiner's rejection moot (see underlined section of page 3 of the Office Action mailed on January 8, 2004). Furthermore, the term, "comprises", in claim 1, has been deleted and replaced with the term, "consists of".

Claims 1, 3-5, 7 and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor had possession of the claimed

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invention. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection to the extent that it is applied to the claims as amended.

Claim 17 has been deleted. Furthermore, the term, "comprises", in claim 1, has been deleted and replaced with the term, "consisting of".

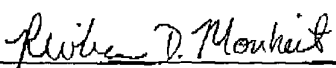
Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection to the extent that it is applied to the claims as amended.

Claim 4 has been amended to properly depend from claim 1, and to clarify the term "VCAM." Claim 1 has been amended to properly recite "2500 Daltons" as described at page 3, lines 15-19, of the specification.

Allowance of claims 1, 3-5, 7, and 16-18 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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U.S.S.N. 09/732,411

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Certificate of Facsimile Transmission

I hereby certify that this Amendment and Response to Office Action, and any documents referred to as attached therein are being facsimile transmitted on this date, **July 8, 2004**, to the Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Roma Berman

Date: July 8, 2004

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